

Workingmen's Houses,
Joseph Kelly House
311 Southern Avenue
Dubuque
Dubuque County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-159-Y

HABS
IOWA,
31-DUBU,
14-Y-

**PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

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Site Location: 311 Southern Avenue
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 1.28
Cadastral grid : NE1/4 NE1/4 S36 T89N R2E
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'
UTM coordinates: 15.691800.4705820
Lot dimensions : 49.2' x 168: .19 acre
Lot description: Lot 31 of Mineral Lot 39
Present Owner: Iowa Department of Transportation
Present Usage: vacant
Present Condition : fair

Overall Dimensions: Tee-shape: 26'x36'; I-shape: 14'x26' with rear addition.
Orientation : east
Architectural Plan type : vernacular tee with infill additions.
Description : Foundation: parged stone perimeter walls.
Structure : wood frame
Ext. walls: aluminum siding over beveled wood siding.
Roofs : asphalt-shingled, steeply pitched side gable
roof over front block, with cross gable over
rear tee; shed over infill addition and aluminum
canopies over porches.
Chimneys : one brick interior end chimney with corbeled
cap, centered on ridge.
Dormers : none
Windows : one (replacement) fixed window, first story on
south facade; remainder are 1/1 double hung
with slip sills, plain casings.
Openings : slightly offset, single-leaf front door and
rear door under side porch; plain casements
and sills.
Porches : metal porches and concrete pads at front and
side entrances (now removed).
Details : (most architectural details obscured by alter-
ations) molded and boxed cornices.

Construction Date : c.1881

Architecture Style: Vernacular Tee

Physical History : Sarah Disney, Job Randall and Isaac LaBoiteause subdivided Mineral Lot 39 into residential plots in 1875. Five years later, in November 1880, Disney sold Lot 31 of the subdivision to Joseph B. and Kate Kelly. The Kellys immediately mortgaged the property back to Disney for \$75. The son of John H. Kelly, who lived in a house [HABS No. IA-159-W] down the street, and

a machinist for the Illinois Central Railroad, Kelly probably built this two-story frame house soon thereafter. He continued to live here until his death sometime between 1937 and 1939. The house has since undergone extensive alterations. Aluminum exterior siding has been installed; the wood front porch has been replaced with an aluminum canopy; asphalt shingles and aluminum gutters and downspouts have been installed on the roof; windows have been replaced and/or removed; and a cantilevered aluminum canopy has been installed over one of the front windows.

Significance: The Joseph 8. Kelly House is one of the workingmen's dwellings constructed as part of the extended Kelly family enclave on Southern Avenue. With its two-story, side-gabled front section and rear addition, the house presents a classic vernacular configuration. Extensive alterations have substantially diminished its architectural integrity.

References: Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1909, 1972.
Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-32-2-32.
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."
Land Title Abstract (located at Iowa Department of Transportation, Ames Iowa).

Compiler: Clayton B. Fraser, Fraserdesign, Loveland Colorado.
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